

*An Abstract of Lieutenant General Hamilton's Letter, to the Garrison of Londonderry when Besieged; in hopes to prevail upon them to surrender, and join with the late KING James.*

Gentlemen,

**H**ere is your King, that resolves to perform all the Conditions you can desire; and that too, under his Hand and Seal, before Twenty Witnesses of your own. You shall have the Honour of delivering the Keys of your City, into his own Royal Hands, shall be Treated as Favourites, and Finishers, of this difficult Siege, and intire Reduction of *Ireland*; and faithful Subjects of this Kingdom: Whereas it is a Hundred to One, whether you are able to withstand this dreadful Army, and defend your City from utter Ruine and Destruction. Yet if so wonderful a Deliverance should attend you, your Rewards notwithstanding will be uncertain, and future *Interest* will always be prized beyond past *Merit*; Eaten Bread is commonly forgotten, and former Services are too often swallowed up in Oblivion, especially if there be no future Expectation, from those that performed them. So that all the Assurances you depend upon, will vanish into Air, and the Result of all your Hardships, will be only the Repetition of this miserable Proverb; *We have our Labour for our Pains*; but on the contrary, if you submit to your Lawful KING, and join with us; all the Lands of the Absentees, and all such other forfeiting Persons, shall be the Purchase of your Submission, and the Reward of your Loyalty to your Rightful Sovereign: And besides your own Estates (which are now forfeited) shall be Confirmed to you, by an ACT of the Parliament now sitting; of which you your selves shall have the wording; and such of you as are strong and stout, shall serve with us in *Scotland* and in *England*, where Thousands of both Nations are ready to receive and join us; (all waiting on the Success of this bloody Siege) with several Thousands of the *French*: The Commissioned Officers shall be continued in the same Posts at least, if not advanced to a better, and them we shall esteem as Hostages for their Families, which will make us depend on them the more; and when it shall please God to give us the victory in *England*, which in a few Months we hope to accomplish, We assure you that even there you shall come in as Sharers of the forfeited Lands: And as for *Scotland*, Duke Gordon is now in Possession of the Castle of *Edinburgh* for the KING; *Dundee* is in Arms, and all the KING's Friends are ready to receive him; but if you continue obstinate, your Ruine seems inevitable, by withstanding an Army so well disciplin'd and so powerful, which resolves, if you continue obstinate, to give no Quarter to Man, Woman or Child.

When once our Cannon and Mortars have rent the Walls in pieces, and the Town is taken by Storm, then tho' Thousands of your Wives and Children, shall fall down upon their Knees, and with repeated Sighs and Groans implore our Pity, We shall doubtless be inexorable, and all their Cries will be drowned, in the loud Acclamations of our victorious Army, which will be then deaf and merciless: And therefore before it is too late, consider and resolve to accept that Mercy, which your KING is willing now to grant, before you find it be too late, and that it will be out of his Power, to preserve you from the Rage and Slaughter of an enraged Army, whose Fury cannot be withheld by His Majesty, much less by, Gentlemen

Your most Humble Servant

Richard Hamilton.

*Whereto the Garrison Answered.*

SIR,

**T**He Cause we have undertaken, we design for ever to maintain; and question not, but that powerful Providence which has hitherto been our Guardian, will finish the Protection of us, against all your Attempts, and give a happy Issue to our Arms. We must let you know, That KING William is as capable of rewarding our Loyalty as KING James; and an *English* Parliament can be as just and bountiful to our Courage, and Sufferings, as an *Irish* one: And that in time we question not, but your Lands will be forfeited rather than ours, and confiscated into our Possession, as a Recompence of this signal Service, to the Crown of *England*: and for this inexpressible Toil and Labour, Expence of Blood and Treasure, pursuant to their Sacred Majesties Declaration to that Purpose, a true Copy whereof we herewith send you, to convince you how little we dread your Menaces. We remain, &c.

To His Excellency, Lieutenant General Richard Hamilton.

Soon after the above Letter, the said Lieutenant General Hamilton, sent another Letter with a Chart Blanch in it, Signed by the late KING James; for the Garrison to write their own Terms and Conditions, which they likewise rejected.

*An Abstract of that Part of their late Majesties Declaration, relating to the forfeited Estates of Ireland.*

**A**ND We do hereby further declare, That if, notwithstanding Our Declaration, any of Our Subjects shall continue in Arms, in Opposition to Us, That we shall think Our Selves free and clear of all the Blood that may be spilt, and of the Destruction and Misery, which by Reason thereof may be occasioned, and We shall look upon our Selves to be justified before God and Man, in Our proceeding by Forces and Arms against them, as Rebels and Traytors; and such We do hereby declare all those to be, who shall act as aforesaid against Us, and our Authority, as is here expressed, *And that all the Lands and Estates of such as shall, after notice of this our Declaration, persist in their Rebellion, or be any wise Abettors thereof, and which by Law shall be forfeited to Us, shall be by Us distributed and disposed, to those that shall be aiding and assisting, in Reducing the said Kingdom to its due Obedience.*

Given at our Court at Whitehall this 22d. Day of Feb. 1688. In the First Year of Our Reigr.

Whether the Persons who defended *Londonderry*, or the Widows and Orphans of those who died in that memorable Siege, have a just Right to what they so dearly earned, cannot surely admit of Dispute: That the present Settlement of *England*, the Succession as by Law established, and the Security of the Protestant Interest, even thro' *Europe*, are in great measure due to their Valour; will appear to such, as duly weigh the Circumstances of those Times:

Wherefore 'tis humbly hoped, That such as enjoy the Benefit of all these Blessings, but more especially such, as at this Day, do in a very particular manner enjoy the Benefits thereof; will think doing Justice to these People as reasonable, as it may be politick; for that the due Encouragement of a Hundred Thousand fighting Men, and so many at least, does the Protestants in the North of *Ireland* consist of, who have always firmly adhered to the Crown of *England*; (and 'tis to be hoped will never have Reason to repent them thereof) will be of Use to the Protestant Interest in general.



# PROPOSALS

Made by Lieutenant General

*Richard Hamilton*

TO THE

Garrison of *London-Derry*

when Belleged, in 1689.